

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 07497 01 OF 02 022130Z  
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 SP-02 SS-15  
STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NSF-01 /109 W  
-----093268 022144Z /72

R 011945Z MAR 78 ZDK  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY WASHDC  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7987  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY GERMANTOWN MD  
AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 07497

DOE PLS PASS TO ASST SECY BERGOLD AND VANDERRY/IA  
AND TO G. W. BRAUN AND HERWIG/ET

BONN FOR C. SELVAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, SENV, FR, US  
SUBJECT: SOLAR ENERGY R & D COOPERATION WITH FRANCE

REF: PARIS 37401, PARIS 03801.

1. EXPANSION OF COOPERATION IN SOLAR ENERGY R & D  
BETWEEN FRENCH PIRDES AND US DOE WAS DISCUSSED ON  
FEB 24 AT A MEETING LEAD BY DOE'S G. BRAUN (ASSISTANT  
DIRECTOR OF SOLAR ENERGY DIVISION) AND CNRS' M. RODOT  
(DIRECTOR OF PIRDES). CNRS PROJECT DIRECTOR B. F.  
AUTHIER (FOR PROJECT PERICLES) AND C. ETIEVANT (FOR  
PROJECT THEM) WERE ALSO PRESENT. IT WAS AGREED THAT  
CLOSE COOPERATION IN SEVERAL AREAS OF THERMODYNAMIC  
CONVERSION OF SOLAR ENERGY SHOULD BE MUTUALLY BENE-  
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PAGE 02 PARIS 07497 01 OF 02 022130Z

FICIAL AND SHOULD BE PURSUED. THE AREAS OF POTENTIAL  
COOPERATION WERE DEFINED AND SPECIFIC STEPS WERE  
AGREED TO INITIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS COOPERATION,  
AS DISCUSSED BELOW.

2. THE MEETING WAS OPENED BY RODOT WHO BRIEFLY  
DESCRIBED THE FOUR MAJOR PROJECTS (THEM, PERICLES,

THEK AND BERTIN) ON WHICH THE FRENCH THERMODYNAMIC SOLAR ENERGY PROGRAM IS BASED. IN TURN, BRAUN

EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO RODOT FOR HAVING MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR HIM AND C. SELVAGE (SANDIA) TO VISIT FRENCH SOLAR R&D FACILITIES NEAR MARSEILLE AND AT ODEILLO ON FEB 20-21, 1978. HE STATED THAT HE WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE QUALITY AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WORK HE SAW AND HE WAS CONVINCED THAT US/FRENCH COOPERATION IN THIS AREA WOULD BE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL. HE INDICATED THAT HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE POTENTIAL FOR JOINT EFFORTS ON THE SPHERICAL STATIONARY COLLECTOR PLANT SYSTEMS, AS HE SAW AT THE PERICLES PROJECT EVIDENCE OF CREATIVE FRENCH SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF THE PROBLEMS, AND OF APPROACHES DIFFERING FROM THOSE EMPLOYED IN THE PARALLEL US PROGRAM.

3. SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WAS DEVOTED TO DEFINING THE SPECIFIC ITEMS OF COOPERATION WHICH WERE OF INTEREST AND TO ESTABLISH HOW TO PROCEED IN EACH CASE.

THE ITEMS WHICH WERE DEXINED TO BE OF INTEREST TO BOTH SIDES INCLUDE: (A) DEVELOPMENT OF STATIONARY SPHERICAL COLLECTOR PLANTS; (B) DEVELOPMENT OF RADIATION MODELS AND DATA FOR THERMODYNAMIC CONVER-

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PAGE 03 PARIS 07497 01 OF 02 022130Z

SION PLANTS; (C) HIGH TEMPERATURE, SECOND GENERATION SOLAR THERMODYNAMIC CONVERSION PLANTS; (D) EVALUATION OF PLANT RECEIVER LOSSES; (E) CROSS USE OF R&D FACILITIES IN BOTH COUNTRIES; AND (F) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION THROUGH SYMPOSIA AND PUBLICATIONS.

4. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE COOPERATION MIGHT INVOLVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, EXCHANGE OF PERSONNEL, AND COMMON PROJECTS. THE NEXT STEP IN DEFINING MUTUAL COOPERATION IN AREAS 3(A), 3(B) AND 3(C) WOULD BE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE RESPECTIVE PROJECT LEADERS OF THESE EFFORTS IN THE US AND FRANCE. THUS BRAUN AGREED TO SPONSOR A VISIT TO THE PERICLES PROJECT, PERHAPS DURING APRIL, 1978, OF THE TEXAS TECH TEAM INVOLVED

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PAGE 01 PARIS 07497 02 OF 02 012054Z  
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 07497

IN THE US COUNTERPART PROJECT. THIS WOULD THEN BE  
FOLLOWED A FEW MONTHS LATER BY A PERICLES PROJECT  
TEAM VISIT TO THE US AT WHICH TIME THE MODALITIES  
OF THE COOPERATION IN THIS AREA WOULD BE FULLY DEFINED.  
A SIMILAR APPROACH WOULD BE FOLLOWED IN AREAS 3(B)  
AND 3(C).

5. BRAUN INDICATED THAT CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS ARE  
IN PROGRESS IN THE US TO PROCEED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION  
OF A STATIONARY SPHERICAL COLLECTOR PLANT TEST  
MODULE. COOPERATION WITH CNRS TO DEVELOP THE BEST  
RECEIVER DESIGN AND STRUCTURAL SUPPORT TECHNIQUES  
FOR SPHERICAL DISH WOULD BE OF PARTICULAR  
INTEREST. ALSO, JOINT DESIGN AND OPTIMIZATIONS OF  
FULL SCALE SYSTEMS FOR SPECIFIC SITES MIGHT BE QUITE  
USEFUL.

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PAGE 02 PARIS 07497 02 OF 02 012054Z

6. WITH RESPECT TO ITEM 3(D), RECEIVER LOSSES, IT  
WAS AGREED THAT SELVAGE WOULD CONTACT SANDIA STAFF TO

ORGANIZE THE US/FRENCH WORKSHOP ON THIS TOPIC IN  
PARIS, PROBABLY ON APRIL 17 AND 18, 1978. THIS DATE

APPEARED MOST CONVENIENT IN LIGHT OF TRAVEL OF  
COMPETENT SANDIA STAFF FOR OTHER MEETINGS IN EUROPE  
AT ABOUT THAT TIME.

7. WITH RESPECT TO ITEM 3(E), CROSS USE OF FACILITIES,  
BRAUN WELCOMED THE PLANNED PARTICIPATION OF RODOT IN  
THE FACILITY USERS ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULED IN  
THE US DURING APRIL 1978. FURTHERMORE, HE SUGGESTED  
THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF A FRENCH MEMBER IN THE USERS  
BOARD MEETINGS BE FORMALIZED, AS WELL AS, THE PARTICI-  
PATION OF A US MEMBER IN THE EQUIVALENT FRENCH MEET-  
INGS. RODOT AGREED WITH THIS AND THOUGHT AN EXCHANGE  
OF LETTERS BETWEEN HIM AND BRAUN NOMINATING THE  
RESPECTIVE INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

8. WITH RESPECT TO ITEM 3(F), DISSEMINATION OF  
INFORMATION, BRAUN EXPRESSED POTENTIAL INTEREST IN  
CO-SPONSORING WITH THE FRENCH IN EARLY 1980 A  
SYMPOSIUM ON SOLAR THERMODYNAMIC CONVERSION SYSTEMS.  
JOINT PREPARATION FOR SUCH A MEETING COULD START IN  
THE FALL OF 1978. HE ALSO ACCEPTED RODOT'S INVITA-  
TION FOR SUBMISSION OF A PAPER ON THE US PROGRAM TO  
THE FRENCH "REVIEW DE PHYSIQUE APPLIQUE" WHICH WILL  
RUN IN OCTOBER 1978 AN ISSUE DEVOTED TO SOLAR ENERGY.

9. IT WAS AGREED BY BOTH PARTIES THAT FOR MAXIMUM  
EFFICIENCY THE COOPERATION EFFORT SHOULD BE AS  
INFORMAL AS POSSIBLE AND THE SCOPE OF COOPERATION  
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PAGE 03 PARIS 07497 02 OF 02 012054Z

COULD BE SPELLED OUT IN A FUTURE LETTER EXCHANGE  
BETWEEN BRAUN AND RODOT. AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREE-  
MENT OF COOPERATION OF MAY 1976 MIGHT BE REQUIRED  
TO PROVIDE A PROPER UMBRELLA.

10. DURING THE MEETING RODOT INDICATED THAT THE  
OVERFLIGHT SOLAR SAFETY TESTS PLANNED UNDER THE SCOPE  
OF THE SEPTEMBER 1977 AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION ARE  
PLANNED AT ODEILLO IN MAY 1978 AND THAT US OBSERVERS  
WOULD BE WELCOME. A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS  
OF THESE TESTS MAY BE APPROPRIATE IN JULY 1978.  
HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 01 mar 1978  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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